

ORIGINAL  
CLIFFORD-  
WILKINSON  
TASMAN  
MINERAL  
WATER CO., LTD.  
Kobe, Japan.  
Sole Agents:  
H. PRICE & CO.,  
WINE MERCHANTS,  
12, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

# Hongkong Daily Press.

ESTABLISHED 1857

GRAND PRIX PARIS  
The Highest Possible Award.  
**JOSEPH GILLOTT'S PENS.**  
Of highest Quality, and having  
Greatest Durability and there-  
fore CHEAPEST.  
The Only Award Chicago, 1893  
[a228]

No. 14,868 號八十六百八千四萬一第 日六初月壹十年壹十三緒光 HONGKONG, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2ND, 1905. 六拜禮 號二月二十年五零百九千一英海曆 PRICE, \$3 PER MONTH.

**WATSON'S HOUSEHOLD AMMONIA**  
FOR THE BATH, TOILET AND HOUSEHOLD.  
An Elegant Preparation. Delicately Perfumed. Promotes a healthy action of the skin, counteracts all effects of perspiration, and is as refreshing and invigorating to the system as a Turkish Bath.  
**A. S. WATSON & CO. LIMITED.**  
THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY.  
[a1342]

**CUTLER, PALMER & CO.'S**  
"SPECIAL BLEND" WHISKY  
A Blend of Selected Distillations of the Finest Scotch Whiskies.  
\$10.50 Per Case.  
Apply to  
**SIEMSEN & CO., Hongkong.** [a65]

**GREEN ISLAND CEMENT COMPANY**  
**PORTLAND CEMENT.**  
In Casks 375 lbs. net \$4.75 per cask ex Factory.  
In Bags 250 lbs. net \$2.50 per bag ex Factory.  
**SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.,**  
General Managers.  
Hongkong, 1st October, 1905. [a1412]

**NOTICE.**  
**GEO. FENWICK & CO., LD.,** Engineers &c., are open to receive OFFERS FOR THE PURCHASE OF THEIR WAN CHAI PROPERTY, comprising portions of Marine Lots Nos. 31 and 32; approximate area 43,000 square feet.  
For further particulars apply to the Company.  
Hongkong, 12th July, 1905. [133]

**FOR SALE.**  
**A LARGE WELL-BUILT GODOWN** suitable for storing and discharging goods. Situated at Fong Chien Canton, next to Messrs. ARNOLD, KARBURG & Co.'s Godown.  
Apply to—  
**TUNG YUEN,**  
163, Wing Lok Street.  
Hongkong, 17th November, 1905. [2597]

**DAVID CORSAK & SON'S**  
MERCHANT NAVY  
NAVY BOILED  
LONG PLANK  
RELIANCE CROWN  
TARPAULING  
ARNOLD, KARBURG & CO.  
Sole Agents.  
**RUINART PERE & FILS, REIMS.**  
Established 1719.  
**CHAMPAGNE GROWERS AND SHIPPERS.**  
Ship only the Finest Quality Extra Dry (Green Seal).  
**LAUTS, WEGENER & CO.**  
Sole Agents.  
Hongkong, 17th May, 1905. [122]

**SIEN TING.**  
**SURGEON DENTIST.**  
No. 10, DAGUILLAR STREET.  
TERMS VERY MODERATE.  
Consultation Free.  
Hongkong, 21st September, 1905. [2174]

**DR. T. YAMASAKI.**  
DENTAL SURGEON  
(Japanese Diploma).  
50, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.  
Charges very moderate. Latest American Methods. No charge for Consultation.  
Office Hours 8 A.M. to 5 P.M. Sundays 8 A.M. to NOON.  
Hongkong, 7th November, 1905. [2515]

**DR. M. H. CHAUN.**  
THE latest Method of the AMERICAN SYSTEM OF DENTISTRY.  
37, DES VŒUX ROAD CENTRAL.  
From the University of Pennsylvania, U.S.A.  
Hongkong, 4th September, 1905. [2056]

**NOTICE TO KOWLOON RESIDENTS**  
EXTRA COPIES of Daily Press are on sale daily at Mr. H. BUTTONE'S KOWLOON STORE, No. 38, Elgin Road and Mr. AH YAU'S FERRY WHARF STALL.  
Hongkong, 22nd December, 1905.

## CUTLER, PALMER & CO.

WINE & SPIRIT MERCHANTS,  
OF  
LONDON, INDIA, CHINA, JAPAN AND AUSTRALIA.  
ESTABLISHED 1815.

BRANDY	***	Per Case	\$22.50
"	***		20.00
"	**		16.75
WHISKY, PALL MALL	-		20.00
" JOHN WALKER & SONS' OLD HIGHLAND	-		12.50
" C. P. & CO.'S SPECIAL BLEND	-		10.50
PORT WINE, INVALIDS	-		20.00
" DOURO	-		13.75
SHERRY, AMOROSO	-		20.00
" LA TORRE	-		16.00
BENEDICTINE, D.O.M.	-		40.50

THE ABOVE EXCLUSIVELY SHIPPED TO  
**SIEMSEN & CO.,**  
HONGKONG AGENTS.  
[a54]

**KOWLOON HOTEL, KOWLOON.**  
CABLE ADDRESS:—"CHEP."  
DELIGHTFUL SITUATION. UNEXCELLED RESORT FOR TRAVELLERS AND RESIDENTS.  
BILLIARDS AND BOWLING. LAWN AND GARDENS.  
**JAS. W. OSBORNE, PROPRIETOR AND MANAGER.** [206]

## LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

**WINTER SEASON'S GOODS JUST ARRIVED.**  
AXMINSTER CARPET SQUARES.  
VELVET PILE AND BRUSSELS CARPETS.  
CHENILLE AND TAPESTRY CURTAINS.

BLANKETS AND EIDER DOWN QUILTS.  
PERAMBULATORS AND MAIL CARTS.  
FENDERS, CURBS, FIRE BRASSES.

## LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

**CHUN SENG.**  
No. 39, QUEEN'S ROAD, HONGKONG. LATE OF 51, MAIN STREET, YOKOHAMA  
DRAPER & TAILOR, GENTS' FURNISHING GOODS, & GENERAL OUTFITTER.  
ALL NEW GOODS IN STOCK.  
A Trial Solicited. Fit and Satisfaction Guaranteed. Inspection Invited.  
Hongkong, 27th May, 1905. [a2665]

## JOHN ROBERTS & COMPANY, LTD.

BILLIARD TABLE MAKERS.  
BOMBAY.  
Undertake to Supply a First-class full sized Billiard Table, design No. 1, to following Specification, viz: on Eight Massive turned Legs, raised panels to Knees, Carved Brackets, Screwed Mouldings, double bolted, best Welsh Slate Bed, extra heavy solid cushion rails fitted with our new low set Express Cushions, patent invisible Pocket Plates, best Whippoor Pockets, Six Chalk Cups, Superfine West of England Cloth, and patent adjusting toes with lever for levelling complete with the following accessories:—  
12 Selected Ash Cues  
1 Butt Rest with Patent Brass Head.  
1 Billiard Rest with Patent Brass Head.  
1 Long Butt.  
1 Mid Butt.  
1 Billiard Marking Board.  
1 Best Cover for Table.  
Straightedge and Circle.  
1 Best Spirit Level.  
1 Smoothing Iron with Shoe.  
1 Wall Cue Rack.  
1 Set Billiard Rules, Framed.  
1 Best Billiard Brush.  
1 Set "Crystalline" or "Bonze" Bill. Balls.  
1 Box Best Cue Tips Assorted.  
1 Cue Tip Fastener with File.  
1 Bottle Cue Cement.  
1 Box Silk Spots.  
2 Dozen Best White Chalk.  
Packed and delivered free on Board Hongkong or Shanghai Harbour for the sum of Rs. 1,400 nett.  
Illustrated price lists giving prices and particulars of everything pertaining to billiards can be had on application from the Office of this paper.  
Hongkong, 1st April, 1904. [871-1]

## PEERLESS SCOTS WHISKIES

**HAIG & HAIG, LD., DISTILLERS SINCE 1679.**  
3 Star, Special—The finest of all "Fog" WHISKIES at ... \$13.00  
5 Star, Special—Exquisite, best in the World for Club or Private use at ... \$22.00  
Stay drinking Haig's Whisky, because "it comes through the SOLE."  
Try Haig & Haig's WHISKIES; pure, mellow, matured, non-smoky, delicate flavor.  
Once tried, preferred to all others. Sole Agents for Hongkong:  
**F. BLACKHEAD & Co**  
2664

## W. BREWER & CO.

23 & 25, QUEEN'S ROAD.  
NOW READY.  
CHRISTMAS VOLUMES, DIARIES, &c.

Nister's Holiday Annual 1906...	\$2.50
With Togo, by Sappings Wright...	4.00
Lady Jim of Curzon Street, by Fergus Hume...	1.75
The Animal's Trip to the Sea...	2.50
Building Construction; 4 Parts...	22.00
Sonnet and Oram's Engineering...	14.70
Brown's Nautical Almanack...	0.75
Seaton and Routh's Tables...	5.75
Willoughby's Hygiene...	3.25
Molesworth's Pocket Book...	4.20
Russia and its Crisis, by Miljovskor...	9.50
Lone Marie, by Norris...	1.75
A Servant of the Public, by Anthony Hope...	1.75

A Quaker's Wooing, by Reynolds ... \$1.75  
Ayasha, by Rider Haggard ... 1.75  
Starvecow Farm, by Stanley Weyman ... 1.75  
House by the River, by Florence Warden ... 1.75  
The Seven Streams, by Deeping ... 1.75  
The Charlots of the Lord, by Hooking ... 1.75  
Dilly, by Ponny ... 1.75  
The Doctor Says, a Book of Advice ... 2.75  
How to Know the Starry Heavens, by Irving ... 5.50

**THE LAHMEYER ELECTRICAL CO., LD.**  
LONDON.  
**THE FELTEN & GUILLAUME-LAHMEYER WERKE**  
FRANKFURT A/M.  
FOR ESTIMATES OF ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS OF ANY DESCRIPTION  
Apply to— **SIEMSEN & CO., SOLE AGENTS FOR CHINA.** [a4a]

**AQUARIUS**  
SPARKLING MINERAL TABLE WATER; Qts., Pts., and Splits.  
SILENT WATER; Qts.  
STONE GINGER BEER.  
GINGER ALE.  
PURE TREBLE DISTILLED WATER ONLY is used in the Manufacture of these Beverages, and by these means ABSOLUTE PURITY IS GUARANTEED.  
TRADE MARK  
TELEPHONE No. 75.  
SOLE AGENTS—  
**CALDBECK, MACGREGOR & CO.,**  
WINE & SPIRIT MERCHANTS,  
15, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.  
Hongkong, 27th October, 1905. [a37]

**HIRANO.**  
THE LEADING MINERAL WATER OF THE EAST.  
THE HIRANO MINERAL WATER CO., LD., KOBE.  
AGENTS: **F. BLACKHEAD & CO.**  
[1905]  
Hongkong, 16th August, 1905.

**USEFUL CHRISTMAS GIFTS.**  
CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR CARDS of newest designs.  
FILM or PLATE CAMERAS fitted with "Rosa," "Dallmeyer," & "Goetz" Lenses.  
PLATES, PAPERS & CHEMICALS, absolutely fresh.  
EASTMAN CELEBRATED KODAKS & FILMS.  
WE IMPORT these goods, thus enabling us to offer them at rock-bottom prices. We invite you to call and inspect our New Stock before making your Christmas and New Year purchases elsewhere.  
**A. TACK & CO.**  
26, DES VŒUX ROAD, HONGKONG. [46]

**NOTICES OF FIRMS**  
NOTICE.  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, as from the 1st December, 1905, Mr. ESSOORALLY SOLEMANJEE will be in Charge of our Hongkong Firm.  
ABDULLAH EBRAMIM & CO.  
Dated the 30th November, 1905. [2688]  
THE EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES.  
I HAVE this day APPOINTED Messrs. SHEWAN, TOMES & CO. GENERAL MANAGERS for Hongkong for the above Society, in the place of Mr. F. KIENE, whose engagement has been terminated.  
J. T. HAMILTON.  
General Manager for the East.  
Hongkong, 15th November, 1905. [2573]  
OCEAN ACCIDENT AND GUARANTEE CORPORATION, LTD.  
HEAD OFFICE: MOORGATE STREET, LONDON.  
I HAVE this day APPOINTED Messrs. SHEWAN, TOMES & CO. AGENTS for the above Corporation, in place of Mr. F. KIENE, whose engagement has been terminated.  
J. T. HAMILTON.  
Manager for the East.  
Hongkong, 15th November, 1905. [2574]

**THE HONGKONG FROZEN FOOD SUPPLY.**  
REDUCTIONS IN PRICES.  
CUSTOMERS are requested to note the following reductions in prices.  
Australian Smoked Mullet ... 50 cts. per lb.  
Schnapper ... 50  
Oysters, 2 1/2 doz. bottles \$1.00 per bot.  
1.50  
Hongkong, 9th November, 1905. [2538]

**TYPEWRITERS**  
CLEANED, REPAIRED, OVERHAULED.  
TYPEWRITING WORK UNDER-  
TAKEN. Charges moderate.  
**F. A. V. RIBEIRO**  
(late of the Hongkong Typewriting Bureau)  
34, Queen's Road Central (Second Floor).  
Hongkong, 25th October, 1905. [2479]

**PURE FRESH WATER.**  
**THE HONGKONG STEAM WATER BOAT CO., LD.** is prepared to supply ANY QUANTITY of PURE FRESH WATER to the Shipping, both for Deck and Boilers.  
Call Flag W.  
**J. W. KEW,**  
Manager.  
Hotel Mansions, 3rd Floor.  
Hongkong, 8th August, 1905. [1433]

**SUN FAT & CO.**  
MANUFACTURERS AND DEALERS IN LADIES' AND CHILDREN'S UNDERWEAR.  
EMBROIDERIES, LACES, SILKS, PONGEES, GRASS LINEN, SHAWLS, HANDKERCHIEFS, BLANKETS, TRUNKS, EBONY FURNITURE AND FANCY GOODS.  
No. 82, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.  
Any Order Promptly Attended To.  
Hongkong, 18th January, 1905.

A NATURAL TONIC  
TABLE WATER  
BOTTLED AT  
TAKARAD-  
ZUKA  
JAPAN  
ORIGINAL  
CLIFFORD-  
WILKINSON  
TASMAN MINERAL  
WATER CO., LTD.  
Kobe.  
Sole Agents:  
**H. PRICE & CO.,**  
WINE MERCHANTS,  
12, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

**INSURANCE**  
THE STANDARD LIFE OFFICE.  
(ESTABLISHED 1825.)  
THE Accumulated Funds of the Company are nearly  
£11,000,000,  
and the annual revenue is at the rate of  
£3900  
PER DAY.  
**DODWELL & CO., LD.,**  
Agents.  
[a1566-3]

**HOTELS**  
**HONGKONG HOTEL**  
FIRST-CLASS AND UP-TO-DATE.  
Dining accommodation for 300 persons.  
131 Bedrooms.  
Elegantly Furnished Reception Rooms.  
Private Bar and Billiard Rooms for the residents.  
Hydraulic Lifts to each Floor.  
Electric Lighting and Fans.  
Every Comfort.  
Ladies' Afternoon Tea Rooms.  
Ladies' Clock Rooms.  
Matron in attendance.  
CHARGES MODERATE, AND NO EXTRA.  
A. F. DAVIES,  
Acting Manager.  
[471]

**KING EDWARD HOTEL.**  
A HIGH CLASS PRIVATE HOTEL.  
Ladies' Afternoon Tea Rooms.  
Private Bar and Billiard Room.  
Hot and Cold Water throughout.  
Electrically Lighted. Electric Fans (if required).  
Electric Passenger Elevator to each floor.  
Table D'Hotel at separate tables.  
For Terms, &c., apply to the—  
MANAGER.  
Hongkong, 24th July, 1905. [a2410]

**CONNAUGHT HOTEL.**  
A FIRST CLASS HOTEL situated near the Banks and Principal Offices.  
Excellent Cuisine and Wines.  
Large and lofty Rooms, elegantly furnished.  
Hydraulic Elevator, hot and cold water throughout.  
Special Rates for Tourists.  
Launch Service for guests.  
For Terms, apply to the—  
MANAGER.  
Hongkong, 31st October, 1902. [a4]

**"BOA VISTA"**  
HOTEL-SANITARIUM OF SOUTH CHINA, MACAO.  
HAS been re-opened under European management and most strict supervision as to food, cleanliness, and hygiene of the place. All comforts of a home.  
A most pleasant resort for those desirous of a few days' rest and quiet.  
Comfortable accommodation for travellers paying a visit to the historical and picturesque colony of Macao.  
Macao is 40 miles south-west of Hongkong. One steamer (s.s. Hwangshan), daily to and from Hongkong, and two steamers to and from Canton, give easy communication with both these centres.  
Cable Address—"BOAVISTA."  
For Terms, apply  
[a2411] THE MANAGER.

**VICTORIA HOTEL.**  
SHAM-EEEN-CANTON.  
On the British Concession.

**MACAO HOTEL.**  
MACAO, CHINA.  
In the Centre of the Praya Grande.  
Both Hotels under experienced European Management.  
Every Comfort and Convenience for Residents and Tourists.  
**WM. FARMER,**  
Proprietor.  
2696.



## INTIMATION



ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

A. S. WATSON &amp; CO.,

LIMITED.

## THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

## NOTICE

OWING TO THE HIGH RATE OF EXCHANGE now prevailing, we beg to notify our customers that, until further notice, A SPECIAL DISCOUNT OF FIVE PER CENT. will be allowed on all goods purchased from our Retail Establishments at ALEXANDRA BUILDINGS, Hongkong, and at RAFFLES ROAD, Kowloon; except in cases where a special quotation is given.

In the case of goods purchased on credit a deduction will be made from the customer's account at the end of the month, and in the case of cash purchases, at the time; but customers are requested to note that this discount will NOT APPLY to STERILIZED WATERS, BEER and STOUT, or CIGARS.

A. S. WATSON &amp; CO. LIMITED.

## NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Only communications relating to the contents of this paper should be addressed to THE EDITOR. Correspondents must forward their names and addresses with communications addressed to the Editor, and for publication, but as evidence of good faith, all letters for publication should be written on one side of the paper only. No anonymous communications should be inserted. No letters for extra copies of this paper should be sent before 11 a.m. on day of publication. After that hour the supply is limited. Only supplied for Cash. Telegraphic Address: Press, Codes: A.S.W. 6th Ed. Editor's P.O. Box, 38. Telephone No. 12.

HONGKONG OFFICE: 10A, DES VOGES ROAD, C. LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, DECEMBER, 2ND, 1905.

In giving some days ago the alleged headings of the Japanese proposal to China regarding Manchuria, we were careful to mention that these details were matters of report only; and while of undoubted interest, we did not regard them as a trustworthy statement of facts. It appears that they have helped to strengthen the fears of those who do not trust Japan's good faith; and it may therefore be just as well to remind readers that it is not a Japanese habit to take newspapers into confidence while important negotiations are proceeding. All present reports, therefore, must be regarded as coming from Chinese sources; and while it has sometimes been the case that Peking has permitted leakages, we do not think that anything so far published concerning the negotiations can be more than more-or-less clever guesswork—in some cases, perhaps inspired guesswork. There can be no question of the integrity of China. Japan's status in Korea is vastly different to what it is in Manchuria; and the same treaty which confirmed the fate of Korea guarantees the integrity of China. If there are any doubts as to the nature of the proceedings at Peking, they should be at once dispelled by the attitude of China. BARON KOMURA has been received, not as a potential suzerain or a designing diplomat, but as a deliverer whom China is called upon to reward. Negotiations are necessary on account of the characteristically Chinese canniness by which natural gratitude is tempered with the business instinct

to make a bargain. China lost some valuable property which Japan found and is restoring. China recognises that a reward must be paid, but does not want to give more than Japan is likely to be satisfied with. The position is more delicate even than that, for China's gratitude happens to be of the kind once defined as a lively sense of favours still to come. With her helpful neighbour on good terms, China cannot but feel insured against any future loss of the mislaid property. Examining in detail, however, the proposals which are said to have been made by Baron KOMURA, it is still difficult to imagine why or where the "friends" of China can see any symptom of dismemberment. Russia's lease of Liautung naturally falls to Japan, without altering the position of, so to speak, the freeholder. The Chinese Eastern Railway was a prize of war, and while the arrangements for the new partnership naturally need to be negotiated, there is nothing in it which could not have been foreseen after the Treaty of Portsmouth. The time to be allowed for evacuating Manchuria is scarcely a new question at Peking, and Japan's patent desire to expedite it is in pleasing contrast with the much discussed and often promised evacuation that should have taken place some months before the war. Inspired rumours have put the period at six months, which we declared at the time of their appearance to be inadequate; and if Japan agrees to quit in eighteen months, it will be bad taste and bad politics for China to huddle over a month or two. Besides, Russia has not been cleared out of Northern Manchuria yet. The rest of the alleged proposals, with only one exception, are either altogether laudable, or perfectly natural, as the few "cunshaws" asked for services rendered, and which could be and have been demanded by other parties. The exception is the supposed stipulation that Japan is to be first consulted in the granting of concessions to foreigners; and with regard to this we had better wait until we hear more about it, on better authority than the statement has at present. It will be admitted off-hand that China's weakness is her system of granting concessions; and that it is possible much mischief might be avoided if she had to consult somebody. Foreign concessions are regarded by China as alcoholic drinks are by a teetotaler. Total abstinence is his principle, and when he is prevailed upon to break it, he either overdoes it, or gets the bad kind, owing to his inexperienced palate. With regard to the Yellow Peril people who see in the very friendliness of these negotiations a threat of Japanese preponderance in China, it only remains to be said that they do not know China, if they imagine that she is throwing herself into the arms of Japan with the self-surrender of a willing bride. The kind of spoon that Mr. CHAMBERLAIN said should be used when supping with a certain Personage is the kind required in dealing with Peking; and this Japan well knows. The closest union likely to occur between Japan and China is at most a *marriage de convenience*.

The following telegram has been received from the Government of Burma, dated 30th November, 1905:—Hongkong has been declared an infected area. Inform shipping firms.

Messrs. A. S. Watson & Co.'s good example (from the buyer's point of view) in reducing prices as soon as the rise in exchange seemed to justify it, has caused much favourable comment.

Yesterday the men-of-war and merchant vessels dined in honour of the anniversary of the birthday of Queen Alexandra, who was born on December 1st, 1844. A royal salute was also fired in the morning.

In celebration of Thanksgiving Day, which is a recognised festival in the United States, Mr. J. W. Osborne gave a public invitation to his friends to dine at the Kowloon Hotel on Thursday evening, when a pleasant time was spent.

A Chinese contractor yesterday displayed a contempt of court which has probably cost him his liberty. Summoned for not taking proper precautions in blasting, he apparently did not consider it worth while attending, and coolly sent his boy. The magistrate would not hear him and issued a warrant for his arrest.

The thirteenth annual report of accounts of the Nippon Marine Transport and Fire Insurance Co., Ltd., Osaka, has just been published. It shows that the net profits after deducting returns and re-insurances amount to ¥798,501, and the working account shows a balance at credit of ¥72,030, which sum the directors recommended be appropriated as follows:—Reserve Fund ¥3,000; bonus to staff, ¥4,900; dividend of 10 per cent per annum to shareholders, ¥75,000; and balance carried forward, ¥32,130. With the addition stated, the Reserve Fund now amounts to ¥530,000.

If enterprise and push can achieve success, Messrs. Gregor & Co. ought to reach the summit soon. They leave no stone unturned. Their latest move is a reduction of prices "due to high exchange."

Mr. Shaw at a conference of playwrights and actor-managers remarked that Shakespeare was not a Panjandrum, but a real and actual dramatist, the performance of whose plays was not a solemn rite which one's position in society obliged one to sit out. (Laughter.)

We may call attention to the important telegram received by Messrs. Shewan Tomes & Co., General Managers at Hongkong of the Equitable Life Assurance Society, a copy of which appears among our new advertisements. It states that the assets of the Society have been found by Chartered Accountants to be all in order, and amounting to \$4,600,000.

The British Empire Motor Trades Alliance continues to receive grateful letters from the colonies, for its patriotic and disinterested efforts to show that British shops can supply good work as cheaply as foreigners. The Alliance is prepared to give gratifying information regarding British Automobile Manufacturers required by buyers in the British Colonies, Possessions and Dependencies.

"General" Booth, returning thanks on being presented with the freedom of the city of London, said "his life had been a continual fight ever since some 60 years ago he turned his back on the world of ease and pleasure and show." It will be admitted he cannot have enjoyed much "ease"; it will be hoped he had pleasure in his work at least; and with regard to "show," that must have been a *lapsus linguae*.

A coolie named Chen Pe has just died in the Government Civil Hospital whether he was sent on Wednesday suffering from a fractured skull. Deceased, who was a stone carrier, was engaged at Yamatui removing stones from the bottom of a hill, down which they were rolled. Deceased and a companion saw a big stone descending. The latter got out of the way, but the former, apparently, lost his presence of mind, for he ran towards the stone which struck him on the head. The man who rolled the stone has been arrested and an inquiry will be held.

Fuji-Ko, a Japanese actress, made her appearance at the Oxford Music Hall, London, on 21st October, in a dramatic sketch, entitled "Heart of Gold." The occasion was remarkable as being the first appearance of a Japanese actress performing in the English language. The story of the sketch concerns a Japanese girl, who makes her way into the Russian lines and pleads for her Japanese lover, a standard-bearer, who has been made prisoner. She tries to arrange his escape after a delightfully acted flirtation with two Russian officers, but the Japanese lover proves too patriotic, and just as the girl is about to commit hara-kiri the Russian officers rush in announcing peace, and she is rewarded with the captured flag of the Rising Sun.

The Report of the Eastern Extension Australasia and China Telegraph Company (Limited) for the half-year ended June 30 shows gross receipts £118,850, against £300,058. The expenses, including £2,457 for maintenance of cables, absorb £135,950, against £141,707, leaving £22,900. After deducting £3,384 for income tax, and £14,615 for interest, &c., on debenture stock, and adding £22,181 brought forward, there is an available balance of £217,081. Two quarterly interim dividends of 1½ per cent each, have been paid for the half-year, leaving £142,881, of which £100,000 has been transferred to the general reserve fund, and £42,881 is carried forward. The tariff for telegrams transmitted between Japan and Europe by this Company's route was reduced on July 1 from 5s 8d. to 4s. 10d. per word.

Those who remember Mr. Sutherland's efforts to amuse Hongkong audiences last winter may be interested by the following extract from our Shanghai contemporary's report of a convivial gathering of the Association of Lancasters:—Mr. Sutherland then sang an exceedingly amusing song in the course of which the *North China Daily News* came in for some rather humorous comments. Mr. Sutherland said he had refused to take any shares in the paper when it was turned into a limited company because its assets were so "little" that it could hardly raise a "Bob." The applause was so prolonged that the President had to announce there would be no more encores on the official programme. We presume this applause was prompted more by the great popularity of Mr. R. W. Little than by the subtlety of the humour.

The New York correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* telegraphed the following across the Atlantic:—According to a despatch from Macao, Missouri, negroes about there are almost breaking their necks to get into the county jail. The explanation offered is that the damp condition of the jail, which has been condemned, has exercised a remarkable effect upon certain negro prisoners, "bleaching them almost white," and it is undepicted in America that most negroes do not like their natural colour. When the good news circulated, the negroes, says the despatch, began pleading guilty to all sorts of crimes. The sheriff allowed fifteen to go to jail, and addressing other aspirants, said: "I've tumbled to your game. If any more want bleaching you'll have to use sandpaper or a file; I ain't going to entertain any more of you, in what you seem to think is not a jail, but a beauty parlour."

The *Times* published this:—Mr. F. B. L. Bowley, librarian of the City-hall Library, Hongkong, writes from Hongkong on September 22:—"The following proof of the indestructibility of *The Times* may be of interest. In this damp climate it is extremely difficult to keep books in good condition owing to the attacks of the book-worm, the silver fish, and the cockroach. To counteract the depredations of these pests books are 'poisoned' and varnished. In the City-hall Library is a collection of bound volumes of *The Times* dating from the middle of last century, and on inspecting these the other day I suggested to the Chinese in charge that he should poison and varnish them. He replied, with a grin, 'that be ok wanchow poison, that paper belong too good, worm no can chew,' and on inspecting the volumes I found no worm holes; although the books were in a dilapidated condition, the paper was intact."

The Marine Insurance Market correspondent of the *Times*, writing on October 25, says:—"In the belief that the bottom of this almost bottomless market has at last been reached, brokers have been renewing the time insurances on fleets much in advance of the usual dates. In one or two cases insurances on steamers which have recently been placed will not take effect till 1907, and will not, therefore, expire till 1908. Underwriters grumble at this forestalling of the future, yet there are so many of them, and they are so hungry, that the business gets done. Premiums show generally a reduction on the rates of 1904—which themselves showed heavy reductions on 1903—and the values of steamers also are lower. This lowering of values at a time when the prices of shipbuilding materials and of labour are advancing is distinctly ominous, since there is every indication that the repair bills of underwriters during next year will be much more heavy than during the past 12 months."

By kind permission of Lieut.-Col. A. G. Patten, D.S.O., and Officers, the Band of the Second Battalion "The Queen's Own" (Royal West Kent Regiment) will play the following programmes of music during dinner at the Hongkong Hotel this (Saturday) evening:—March—"Stars and Stripes"..... Sousa Overture—"Scherzo"..... Suppe Valse—"Le Serenade"..... Jaxone Selection from "A Country Girl"..... Monckton Highland Patrol "The Wren MacGregor"..... Auer Suite—"Bird of Passage"..... Mendelssohn "Reminiscences of All Nations"..... F. Goffrey Cake Walk—"Cotton Blossoms"..... Hall

Mr. H. F. Brady, who is to succeed Mr. Giles as British Consul, is expected to arrive by the *Hatching*. His return to Poochow will be a source of great satisfaction to his numerous friends—indeed to the whole community, with whom he was thoroughly and deservedly popular. But when we give vent to the exultation of our pleasure at Mr. Brady's return, our exultation must be taken to apply to that event only, and in no way to the departure of Mr. Giles. During his short tenure of office here, Mr. Giles has made himself—both as an official and as an individual—fully appreciated; and all Poochow will feel a keen regret when he goes. The energy and ability he has displayed here in the conduct of his public duties, and the success he has achieved, fully justify the sincere wish of the community that he may meet with equal success in his new post at Changsha. Mr. Giles carries with him the esteem of all who know him, and we give him as cordial and regretful a farewell, as to Mr. Brady a cordial and delighted welcome.

Mr. George Bernard Shaw, in a letter to the *Times*, says:—"Irving, honestly and accurately described, was a quite sufficiently remarkable and interesting man. The illusory Irving of the obituary notices, the scholar, the Shakespearean, the model in every public and private virtue, the distributor of sovereigns to refreshment-house-keepers, and of £100-notes to starving actors does not interest me in the least. The same things were said about Gladstone and Sir Augustus Harris; the same things will be said about Lord Roberts, Mr. Chamberlain, President Roosevelt, and possibly about Mr. Coleridge and myself, if by some accident we should become popular idols. My business is not to multiply stuff of that kind. The real Irving was an enigma worth studying just because, having hardly one of the qualifications which are claimed for him, he proved, by his extraordinary success, that these qualifications are somehow not the genuine diagnostics of eminence. And, unless I greatly mistake the man, he would much rather be known for the very curious, rare, and distinguished person he really was, than for the blatantly cheap compound of philanthropic hesitancy on a monument and generous sailor in a melodrama which most of his obituarists have made of him."

## WEATHER REPORT.

The Hongkong Observatory yesterday issued the following report:—On the 1st at 12:20 p.m. the barometer has fallen over the E. coast of China and in Formosa. The highest pressure still lies over the Yangtze. Gradients are slight on the China coast. Moderate monsoon is indicated in the Formosa Channel and fresh monsoon over the China Sea. Forecast:—Light or moderate E. to N. winds; fine.

## TELEGRAMS.

"DAILY PRESS" EXCLUSIVE SERVICE.

## SEBASTOPOL QUIET.

LONDON, 1st December.

The revolt at Sebastopol is officially declared to have been suppressed.

## TURKEY AND THE POWERS.

LONDON, 1st December.

The Sultan continues recalcitrant, in face of the demonstration by the Powers.

[REUTERS SERVICE.]

## AUSTRIA.

LONDON, 29th November.

Business was at a standstill yesterday in Vienna. The Socialists organised a huge orderly universal suffrage demonstration on the occasion of the opening of the Reichsrath, in which 200,000 people participated. A deputation was favourably received by the Government.

## THE SITUATION IN RUSSIA.

LONDON, 29th November.

The attitude of the army is the most serious feature of the situation in Russia. It is admitted in St. Petersburg that the spirit of revolt has pervaded the whole army, from Vladivostok to St. Petersburg. The Manchurian forces are in a condition of almost open revolt. The garrison of St. Petersburg has formulated demands, which involve a complete remodelling of the present conditions of service. A panic has occurred on the Bourse in St. Petersburg, resulting in a heavy fall of prices. Communication is interrupted with Moscow, where the telegraphists have struck.

The frantic selling of securities continues in St. Petersburg, and today the prices on the Bourse have reached the lowest yet recorded.

## THE KAISER'S SPEECH.

LONDON, 29th November.

Following on the Kaiser's speech, the Berlin press, with remarkable accord, insists on the necessity of increasing the navy. The German papers do not hesitate to consider that the words of the Kaiser on the foreign relations of Germany are aimed at Great Britain and France. The English press accepts the speech calmly, believing that it is prompted by a desire to increase the navy.

## THE JAPANESE LOAN.

LONDON, 29th November.

The Japanese loan was largely oversubscribed in London, Paris and Berlin.

## GREAT BRITAIN AND JAPAN.

LONDON, 29th November.

Anglo-Japanese negotiations are proceeding in reference to the mutual admission of medicals to the respective territories, especially to that of Japan.

## THE BRITISH CHANNEL SQUADRON.

LONDON, 29th November.

The Admiralty has decided to add the five battleships recently returned from China to the Channel Squadron, which will from now be divided into two squadrons, of which these five battleships will form practically a North Sea squadron with a temporary base at Dover.

## LATE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE.

The King and Queen drove on Sunday morning to the Guards' Memorial Chapel, Wellington Barracks, where they attended a service, and the King unveiled a splendid mosaic representation of the Association, which has been placed on the east wall of the southern gallery as a memorial of the late Duke of Cambridge. His Majesty wore the uniform of colonel-in-chief of the Grenadier Guards, and the Queen was dressed entirely in black. There was a large congregation, composed largely of past and present officers of the Brigade of Guards and their families, and of the rank and file of the Grenadier, Coldstream, and Scots Guards. Honoured places were given to two of the late Duke's sons—Admiral Sir Adolphus FitzGeorge and Colonel Sir Augustus FitzGeorge, while Lord Methuen, a party of Queen's nurses from Millbank Military Hospital and the girls from the Guards' School also were present. The Grenadiers' Band supplied instrumental music. At the close of the order for morning prayer the King stepped forward and drew aside a Union Jack, by which the memorial had been concealed, and the same action switched on powerful electric lights, which illuminated the picture. His Majesty said: "To the glory of God and in honoured memory of George, Duke of Cambridge, I unveil this memorial." A sermon by the Chaplain-General followed, and at the close of the service the King and Queen went into the gallery and inspected the memorial more closely. Slight incense was discovered in the inscription beneath the memorial, including the omission of the name "George." The King noticed this, and the correction was promptly ordered. After their Majesties had left the chapel the late Duke's sons inspected the memorial.—*N. and M. Record*.

## SUPREME COURT.

Friday, 1st December.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. A. G. WISE (PUNISH JUDGE).

## AN EMPLOYEE'S CLAIM.

S. D. Hickle sued the Robinson Piano Company to recover the sum of \$811.31, being as to \$825, three months' salary in lieu of notice of dismissal, and as to \$86.31, arrears of salary for the month of October.

Mr. C. F. Dixon (of Mr. John Hastings' office) appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. C. H. H. Davis (of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist) for the defendant.

The case was adjourned for pleadings.

## POLICE COURT.

Friday, 1st December.

BEFORE MR. F. A. HARELAND (FIRST POLICE MAGISTRATE).

## A FEROCIOUS DOG.

Mr. A. O'Gourdin summoned Mr. Crim of Larkspur, for keeping an unmuzzled ferocious dog. Complainant said the dog made his life miserable because he could not go in or out of his house without the dog worrying him. It was a big beast and frightened all the young children who used to visit the house. Defendant denied that the dog was ferocious and stated that his children played with it. Inspector Collett was asked to see the dog and the summons was adjourned sine die.

## ALLEGED ASSAULT ON A HOUSEBOY.

W. Armstrong was summoned by the house boy at 54 Queen's Road East, where he lodged, for assault. Complainant said that defendant on Thursday asked him for a second cup of tea and struck him. Mrs. Cooper, his mistress, and the ayah, witnessed the assault. These were sent for, but stated they had not seen the occurrence. Defendant said the boy was insolent but he did not strike him. The summons was dismissed.

## NEGLECTED CONTRACTORS.

Sergeant Sims prosecuted Chu Ah Teoi, contractor, for allowing stones to roll over the hill at the Peak to the danger of life and property. One struck struck the coping stone of a house and almost went through a window. Fine \$15.

Another contractor at Kowloon was similarly dealt with for a like offence.

## ALLEGED EMBEZZLEMENT.

Dhunjeshaw Munchiey Bhassania, a Parsee clerk, residing at 132 Wellington Street, was charged with embezzling several sums of money belonging to his employer, Dhunjeshaw Kustunge, and was remanded till Monday, bail being fixed at \$250.

## THE ADVENTURES OF A MEDAL.

George Arnold, a private in the Royal West Kent Regiment, was charged with the theft of a medal belonging to P. S. Beech.

Complainant stated that one night last month he was sitting in the New Travellers' Inn, when defendant, whom he knew, entered. He invited the soldier to sit down and have a drink of porter. The subject of the medal was then mentioned. It was a South African medal with five clasps. He asked Arnold to have the ribbon renewed and two pins added. The latter replied "Yes, I will do it with pleasure." It will cost you 40 cents." Defendant took the medal but failed to attend the place of meeting for the return of the medal, and when complainant asked him several nights later for the medal he replied that he had given it back to him. This he had not done. Complainant was quite sober when he handed the medal over to defendant.

Arnold alleged that that same evening he handed the medal back to complainant who showed it to some civilians.

Gunner Clark of the R.G.A. spoke to seeing Beech hand the medal over to Arnold.

Gunner Cox of the R.G.A. said in saw complainant hand the medal to Arnold but wishing to show it to some civilians he took it back and went off with it.

His Worship said defendant's story was the more probable and he ordered the summons to be withdrawn.

## THE VLADIVOSTOCK ORGIE.

The *N.-C. Daily News* reports:—Private letters have now been received in Shanghai from Vladivostok describing the recent riots there. The trouble, it appears, arose from the fact that the reservists learnt that they were not to be sent home for the present. It was known to the authorities that there were likely to be disorders, but the full extent to which the men went had not been reckoned upon. The scenes while the riot was at its height were of the wildest. The great bazaar or market was burnt out, as were Messrs. Kunst and Albers' establishment, and many other foreign houses, the loss of which, if any, can be recovered, being enormous. The supplies of food and clothing in the place were nearly entirely destroyed, and one large store, which was fortunate enough to escape damage, sold goods to the value of \$11,000 in an hour, as soon as partial order was restored, so that the demand for the necessities of life. The soldiers and sailors, inflamed with drink, of which vast stores have been unloaded on the wharves and left insufficiently guarded, burnt and destroyed everything they came across; they pursued their officers wherever they were to be found, dragging some of them from under their beds at the Moscow hotel where they had taken refuge. The greater part of the foreign community was forced to take refuge on the ships in harbour, while the Chinese were helpless sufferers. A German warship was telegraphed for. Fortunately on the following day the authorities were able to regain the upper hand and the port was able to resume its ordinary life to some extent among the ruins. It will be noted that for the present the importation of intoxicants of any description is forbidden. So no pale imitations of the authorities to deal with the quantities of liquor imported into the place that the very sentries and watchmen posted to guard the drink were frequently found helplessly drunk at their posts.



## LOCAL SPORT.

## CRICKET.

The following will represent the "A" Team of the Civil Service C.C. against the Kowloon 2nd Eleven at King's Park to-day at 2.15 p.m. Sharp—W. Gast (capt.), H. Coombes, D. MacKenzie, E. Dawson, W. Cooper, F. Allen, G. Haggard, F. Caser, H. West, A. Hurdwood and W. H. E. Smith.

## CRICKET GOWER C.C. v. KOWLOON C.C.

This league match will be played to-day (Saturday) on the Craigengower Ground, commencing at 2.15 p.m. The following will represent Craigengower C.C.—L. E. Lammet (Capt.), M. E. Asger, A. O. Brown, J. D. Kinnaird, E. R. Horton, R. Bass, R. Pestonji, E. S. Ford, L. A. Rose, E. Irving and J. W. Stewart.

## LEAGUE TABLE.

The following is the League table up to date:—

Club	Played	W.	L.	D.	Points
R. G. A.	5	4	1	0	12
Craigengower	5	4	1	0	12
Army Staff	2	2	0	0	6
Civil Service	4	2	2	0	6
H. K. C. C. "A"	4	1	3	0	2
Royal Engineers	3	0	3	0	0
Hongkong Police	3	0	3	0	0

3 points a win.  
1 point a draw.

In the League Match, Kowloon C.C. v. Craigengower C.C. at Happy Valley to-day at 2.15 p.m., the following will represent the Kowloon C.C.—Dr. J. Swan (Capt.), W. E. Dixon, S. Lightfoot, P. W. Goldring, H. W. Harrop, J. Clelland, H. Ber. Lieut. G. H. W. Dobbin, R. G. A., J. P. Robinson, H. Blackledge and J. H. W. Mitchell.

## POLICE V. HONGKONG "A"

A match between the Police and "A" team of the Hongkong Cricket Club will take place on the ground of the former at Happy Valley this afternoon. The Police will be represented by Superintendent Woodhouse, Inspector Langley, Messrs. Kerr, Pitt, Edwards, Watson, Shepherd, Fowler Clyde and McKay, with Messrs. Kent, McHardy and Foley as reserves.

## FOOTBALL.

The following have been chosen to play for the Hongkong Football Club in the Rugby match against the United Services at 4.30 p.m. to-day Saturday. The Club will play in colours.

Back—C. T. Costigan; Three-quarters—C. M. Freshair, T. E. Pearce, A. N. Other, and W. E. Leckie; Halfbacks—R. J. Blackburn and G. Rogelaz; Forwards—P. W. Goldring, H. M. Kerdall, F. C. Hall, A. Boyd, J. B. Steer, J. P. McGilvray, H. F. Hiehlmar, and H. E. Chad.

## HONGKONG CRICKET CLUB.

The following have been selected to play in the match to-day, Club versus Garrison. Lt. Levin, R. N., R. A. B. Ponsbury, T. Sercombe Smith, W. C. D. Turner, G. E. Morrell, Rev. Hastings, R. N., H. H. Rutherford, C. Pigott, R. E. O. Bird, W. Daniel and Walter J. Daniel.

Play will commence after tea which will be served in the Pavilion at 12.30 p.m.

## BASEBALL.

U.S.S. "RALEIGH" v. HONGKONG. On Thursday afternoon at Causeway Bay there was played the first of a series of three games in competition for a very handsome silver cup presented by Messrs. Gregor & Co., the local wine merchants. The sailors proved too strong for the local ball tossers and after two hours of good snappy play won the game by 19 runs to 11. The noticeable features of the game were the heavy batting of the Raleighs and the very decided improvement in play of the local men. The sailor contingent kept up a running fire of witty remarks which afforded the civilian spectators a great deal of amusement. We are glad to note that baseball is becoming one of the recognised sports of the Colony and the encouragement given by Messrs. Gregor & Company's liberality will do much toward stimulating interest in the game.

The line up and score by innings was as follows:—  
Innings 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9  
Raleighs 6 2 18 6 16 = 39  
Hongkong 0 0 0 1 4 = 11  
U.S.S. "RALEIGH" v. HONGKONG.  
Pitcher: Wernitz & Sempie; Catcher: McNeil; 1st Base: Wernitz; 2nd Base: Bennett; 3rd Base: Fuchs; 4th Base: Green; 5th Base: Ryan; 6th Base: Ryan (Capt.); 7th Base: Ryan (Capt.); 8th Base: Ryan (Capt.); 9th Base: Ryan (Capt.).

The second game for the cup will probably be played on Saturday, the 9th.

## DEPARTURE OF INTERMED- RUSSIANS.

An unusual stir in the Russian camp at Kowloon early on Thursday morning betrayed the fact that something out of the ordinary routine was about to happen. Preparations in fact were in progress for the departure of the men for their fatherland, after many months of internment. About 150 Russians have been encamped at Kowloon. Major Sexton, who was in charge of the camp, saw the warriors on board, and the Water Police returned the arms and ammunition which they held for them. The sailors, as they proceeded to the vessel which was to carry them home, listened the short march with music on various instruments. They appeared to be glad, at the thought of again seeing their native land, but the leave-taking was marked by many expressions of regret at leaving the hospitable shores of our Colony. The cruiser *Almas* weighed anchor about midday on Thursday, when the Russians took their last glimpse of the land on which they had spent so many pleasant days.

## CANTON.

## [FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

3rd November.

## A BRITISH SUBJECT IN TROUBLE.

A British subject named Raeburn, who was in the employ of Messrs. Butterfield & Swire as overseer at their godowns on the Honam, was charged with pushing a Chinaman into the water from his houseboat. The case was heard at the British Consulate, and the charge being proved, Raeburn has been sentenced to 45 hours' imprisonment and fined \$100. He has been dismissed by his employers.

## CANTON-WHAMPOA RAILWAY AGAIN.

A scheme for the construction of a railway line from Canton to Whampoa has been on the boards for some time. It is now reported that this railway will be linked to the Swatow-Chinchin line. The Canton-Whampoa line will be 12 miles in length and will cost about \$600,000 dollars. Viceroy Shum has instructed the Customs and Likin Bureaus to report to him whether they see any objections to the construction of the line. The line will probably start from the end of the Bund at the east end of the town and a great boom in land is expected in that neighbourhood.

## A RICH COOLIE.

In the city of Tai-Ma-Chan, a coolie recently won a prize of \$18,000 in the Shan Pin lottery. An expectant coolie who was formerly his employer called on him in his official robes and endeavored to obtain a loan of \$2,000 from the lucky man. The coolie informed him that he had placed his fortune in the hands of his relatives and that he regretted to be unable to help him. The Tai-Ma left in high dudgeon.

## A MACAO CLAIM.

The Portuguese Consul-General here has sent a despatch to Viceroy Shum claiming from Li King-cho a partner of the Yuen-Shun Bank of Canton the sum of \$2,000 borrowed from the Tai-Long firm of Macao. The Consul further states that Li King-cho uttered a false receipt. Defendant recently absconded from Macao and the Viceroy is requested to order him to be arrested and prosecuted.

## A ROBBER GANG.

Robbery is rife at present in the numerous villages outside the North Gate. The different police stations in the neighbourhood have now been warned to keep a strict watch as the robbers are known to have planned further attacks. They are said to be in hiding near the Western suburbs.

## THE P. &amp; O. AND PROGRESS.

## FOUR MILLIONS SPENT IN THREE YEARS.

On page 7 of our to-day's issue the P. & O. Company announced the proposed sailings of their mail steamers for Marseilles and London during the coming "Hemisphere Passenger Season." It will be noticed with great satisfaction, by British residents especially, that the Company is putting on the run to Colombo new steamers of 7,000 and 8,000 tons. The *Arcadia*, *Douglas*, *Delhi*, *Delia*, *Oceana*, and *Devalia* are in the list of vessels to leave Hongkong during February, March and April next, and these will connect at Colombo with the larger steamers of the Company homeward bound from Australia. The announcement also embraces the sailings of the Intermediate (non-shipment) steamers which carry subson passengers at reduced rates.

An Exchange says:—The latest additions to the P. & O. fleet are of special interest to European residents in the Far East. One of the latest is the *Mooltas*. She is a replica of the *Medonia* class, but with certain improvements in various ways, which the experience of the last year or two has shown to be possible. The construction of five vessels of this type, at a cost nearly approaching two millions sterling, is only a further proof of energy on the part of the Company, which has recently placed five or six steamers of the *Persia* class on their Eastern line.

"Although the 'M' class as the *Mooltas* are usually described, have a tonnage nearly 2,000 tons above that of the *Persia* they do not carry a greater number of passengers, and this arises from the fact that these new steamers have no lower deck accommodation. All their cabins are on or above the main deck, so that their ports, whether in the first or second class, never require to be closed unless in exceptionally severe weather. The second-class accommodation being thus entirely on the main deck, places the comfort of these cabins as equal to that of the first-class in many respects while the latter also have a great stride beyond the designs of former ships by the large proportion of passengers who can be berthed on the upper decks in cabins which never require to be shut on account of bad weather.

## THE CHINA COMMAND.

The following letter appeared in the *Daily Telegraph*:—  
Sir—In his comments upon the appointment of Vice-Admiral Sir A. Moore to be Commander-in-Chief in China, in succession to Admiral Noel, your usually well-informed Naval correspondent has forgotten that Sir Gerard Noel has reached full admiral's rank, while Sir Arthur Moore, his successor, occupies the same position in the vice-admiral's list as did Sir Gerard at the time of his appointment. I do not think there has been a single instance during the last forty years in which a Commander-in-Chief in China promoted to full admiral has been allowed to retain the command longer than was necessary to select and send out his relief.

When the China Station was made a vice-admiral's command, some forty years ago, it was done as a matter of policy, because it was wisely considered by the Government of that day that, in view of our great interests on that station, the English Commander-in-Chief should be senior to all other flag officers on the station. The command in days gone by was often, as far as ships went, far weaker than it is at the present moment, but the policy of maintaining a vice-admiral in command was always adhered to no matter how much the strength of the squadron was reduced. It is worthy of remark that the first action of the Kaiser, when he determined on a more energetic policy in China, was to raise the officer in command of his squadron on the station to vice-admiral's rank, so that he should be on an equality with ours, who would then no longer take precedence. It was considered a grave blunder by experienced naval officers and other authorities well acquainted with the situation on that station at the time that our Government did not respond at once raising Sir P. Seymour to the rank of admiral, and to full admiral's rank. By not doing so we lost prestige; and it is further noteworthy that the Kaiser, with a smaller squadron than ours still is, still retains a rear-admiral as second-in-command, while our rear-admiral, second-in-command, has been recalled, and the fact that Germany has now two flag officers to our one is not adding to our prestige on the station. Apologising for this letter, I remain, yours truly, NAVAL OFFICER.

## TURNING THE INDEMNITY TABLES.

## CHINA'S CLAIMS AGAINST AMERICA.

The Washington correspondent of the *Morning Post* states that the Chinese Minister there has very nearly finished his work of collating the claims for damages inflicted by the United States upon China under the provisions of the Enforcement of the Exclusion Act. About 2,500 cases have been admitted after examination, and as each claim runs to between \$200 and \$500 it is expected that the Chinese Imperial Government will shortly present a bill of damages to the United States for amounts aggregating \$1,000,000. The Chinese Legation assisted by its agents on the Pacific Coast and elsewhere, has prepared this large number of cases in which it is alleged that, after consulting the rights of the United States as a measure of domestic policy to exclude coolies and those Chinese properly classed within the terms of the law, great wrongs have been committed against Chinese subjects fully qualified to be admitted to the United States. There is hardly, adds the correspondent, any possibility of the United States considering such a claim, and if the Government so refuses it is believed that China will file her bill with the English Tribunal and this would undoubtedly be shared more on the part of China. For although the money might not be recovered China would have the benefit of placing the exclusion grievance in a formal manner before the attention of the world. It is believed here that this is China's intention, as her officials are aware that there is not the remotest possibility of the present Congress altering the Exclusion Laws.

## SHANGHAI FIRMS.

The two items following appeared in the *A. O. Daily News* of Nov. 27. The attention of investors has no doubt been drawn to the recently-issued prospectus of Voelkel and Schriber, Ltd., which is the conversion into a limited company with a capital of \$80,000 in 4,000 shares of \$20 each, of the well-known business of the same name which has been carried on here since 1876, with a constantly increasing international clientele. It should be noted that the vendor agrees to act as manager of the company for the first year, and to guarantee a minimum annual dividend of 10 per cent during that period. The share lists will close for Shanghai on Saturday the 9th proximo, and for the other ports a week later.

A small, but select party assembled at the at the new Markham Road bridge on Saturday afternoon, on the invitation of Mr. F. E. Schriber, to visit the new works of the A. Butler Tins Company, Ltd. A launch was beached shortly after 3 p.m. and a short but pleasant journey took the party to the works. Having landed, the visitors proceeded on a tour of inspection. The works are small, but the amount done by them is extraordinary. Rough tiles, plain tiles, and beautiful coloured tiles were seen in the process of manufacture, and Mr. Schriber explained the machinery etc., so thoroughly that everyone felt that tile-making was a simple matter. The works were a model of cleanliness, order, and industry. After the tour of inspection an adjournment was made to the overseer's house, where champagne and sandwiches were partaken of. The prosperity of the Company and its manager, Mr. Schriber, was drunk with enthusiasm, and about 5 p.m. the launch was again boarded and the party returned to Shanghai.

## BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS.

For the first time in two years a Colonial Office report dealing with the British Solomon Islands has appeared. These islands have been under British protection since 1893, but they remain one of the least known island groups of the Western Pacific, and it will no doubt come as a surprise to many people to learn that they form one of New South Wales' best markets. The trade, which is, of course, in its infancy, is at present worth over \$31,000 per annum. The Protectorate has at least 175,000 inhabitants, and the Resident Commissioner believes that it is destined to become the principal source of copra supply from the Western Pacific. It is urged that British merchants should give some attention to the markets of Oceania. That they are of considerable value, and destined to become of importance, is perhaps best shown by the determined efforts of the German Government (but recently frustrated in the case of the Marshall Islands) to keep British trade and shipping away from the principal trading stations. These efforts mainly take the form of liberal subsidies to German lines, but less creditable expedients have been favoured as well.

## ORGANISATION OF RUSSIAN REVOLUTION.

Some months ago a correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* had an interview with Mr. Carl Joubert. The date of the conversation was just after the destruction of the Baltic Fleet in the Sea of Japan, and for the most part had reference to Mr. Joubert's remarkable prophecy, which was fulfilled to the letter, as to the action and fate of the Russian fleet. Incidentally, Mr. Joubert talked with our representative of what he termed the approaching revolution in Russia. It is interesting at the present stage of events in the Tsar's dominions, to give publicity to some of the statements made by Mr. Joubert in May last. He was then on the eve of a departure for St. Petersburg, the object of the journey being to assist in preventing the execution of a plot by the Anarchists for the assassination of the Tsar. Mr. Joubert and the Russian reformers are not friends with the Anarchists and Terrorists, whose methods they abhor and whose help is only accepted on the principle that "necessity has strange bed-fellows."

Replying to a question arising out of his forcible remarks on this aspect of the situation in Russia, Mr. Joubert said:—  
"The Revolutionists do not desire the death of the Tsar. We wish him to be the constitutional Sovereign of Russia. The Anarchists and Terrorists, filled with a mad lust to revenge all the outrages to which the Russian people have been subjected, desire his blood, and that of every member of the Russian Royal family. We are fighting the Anarchists and trying to save the Tsar. We hope to save him, and to see him one day at the head of a reformed and constitutional Russia. Nevertheless the time will be ripe for us to show our hand."

"What are the means by which you propose to attain your ends?"  
"Our methods will be bloodless, if possible. It is not a part of our plan to compass the death of a single Russian if our ends can be accomplished without it. We wish and pray for a bloodless revolution, but if that cannot be attained then we shall put into operation a scheme the extent and methods of which will amaze the world."

"But Russia is strong, and huge armies and vast sums of money will be required?"  
"We have both," replied Mr. Joubert. "The whole scheme is prepared and ready, and we only wait our time."  
"Would not the present be the most favourable opportunity, while Russia, or rather Tsardom, as you prefer to term it, is engaged in war with Japan?"

"We will not move a finger until peace is made between Tsardom and Japan. We do not want it said that our success has been due to the Japanese. We will wait until peace has been established; then we will move. You asked about our men and means. At this moment we have £61,000,000 in cash, most of it in English banks, but we have a large amount also banked in America. We shall require £150,000,000 in gold, and we believe it will be every ruble available by the month of August next. (This was written in May). As for men, we have two millions already enrolled, every one of whom is ready to lay down his life for the cause. Of these a large proportion are reservists. In addition, a majority of the men now actually serving in the Russian army belong to us."

"But how will you arm your troops?"  
"We have at least one-third of the armaments in Russia at our absolute disposal. In some of the arms and ammunition on which Tsardom depends are useless. Tens of thousands of tons of the ammunition on which Tsardom depends is filled with sand. We have bought over thousands of army officers—£100,000,000 sterling has already been spent in this way. These officers, when the time for action comes, will hand over their troops and the forts and arsenals in their charge, and will leave Russia."

"Why should they leave? Would they not be of more service to command the troops?"  
Mr. Joubert smiled a little and replied: "Do you think it would be wise to trust men who have already shown that they have a price? Oh, no. Any officer whom we have bought will have no command in the revolutionary army."

On the effect of the war on the reform Mr. Joubert said: "I will admit readily, however, that the war has furthered our movement. It has made it possible at least five years earlier than would otherwise have been the case, but it is ridiculous for Japan to claim that she is fighting for Russian liberty. The Anglo-Saxon, the English-speaking peoples, are those in whom the Russian revolutionists base their hopes, and a reformed and regenerated Russia will be England's staunchest friend and supporter in the days to come."

Then the Anarchists do not belong to your movement?"  
"Certainly not," replied Mr. Joubert, with some indignation. "On the contrary, they are our enemies, and Dr. Dillon was entirely right a few weeks ago when he reported that at a plot was on foot to murder the 'Intellectuals.' The foundation and base of our movement is the educated people of the Russian Empire."

## MR. MARCONI AND THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT.

Owing to a recent agitation in some of the Opposition papers of the Italian Press against the contract between the Italian Government and Mr. Marconi, which grants an exclusive licence to the Marconi Wireless Telegraph system for four years, Mr. Marconi has written to the Italian Minister of Posts and Telegraphs offering to consider the agreement as cancelled, thus relieving the Italian Government of all obligations. A translation of the reply of Minister Morelli Gualtierotti is as follows:—

"The tenders for work at the Colonna Station will be invited at Pisa on October 18. The Ministry in the putting into execution the Bill twice approved by Parliament, is also convinced of the value of the conditions entered into and also grateful to the illustrious Italian who generously conceded to his country the use, without compensation, of the extraordinary fruits of his genius. I beg you not to concern yourself about any discordant opinion, which certainly does not reflect either the feeling of the country or that of the Government."

This reply confirms the policy of the Italian Government in adopting the most widely-used system of wireless telegraphy and refusing to permit compulsory exchange of messages between it and other systems. As compulsory inter-communication was the main point raised during the preliminary Wireless Telegraph Conference held in Berlin two years ago at the instigation of the Kaiser, the strong attitude persisted in by the Italian Government will have a most important effect on the deliberations of the next Conference, which, it is rumoured, will be held at Paris. The Italian Government has had the largest practical experience of wireless telegraphy and its renewed decision in favour of a single system will carry exceptional weight and may influence the attitude of our own and other Governments.

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Hongkong, 13th November, 1905.

## A PESSIMISTIC VIEW OF THE CROWN AGENTS.

The Singapore Harbour Improvement scheme may help to make history by effecting a much needed administrative reform; also it may not do so. Anyhow the latest development is causing no little excitement down there, and the *Straits Times* seems likely to be able to call the attention of the world to the facts. This harbour scheme is to cost many millions, so many that nobody ventures to approximate the number, and it is being forced on an unwilling colony. Everybody connected with shipping or with rate-paying is opposed to it, many local experts say it is bound to do harm to the harbour, every member of the Chamber of Commerce formally protested against it. But the Crown Agents' *Empire* of contractors, Singapore has had a painful experience of their extravagance and inefficiency in the construction of the little railway across the island, which became a byword throughout the East before it was finished. But as the *Straits Times* puts it, that was a mere tinkler's billet, this harbour scheme is a gentleman's perk, a royal "job," a "good thing," worth waiting for and one which all concerned ought to retire with peaches. The Crown Agents, it is admitted, receive only a moderate commission on colonial business; it is the kempis of firms they employ who get the profits, and the *Straits Times* says they are all in the family. The *Straits Times* in fact is angry, and uses such expressions as "vulture," "obsequious parasites," "licentious pick-pockets," "the complete skinning of Singapore," "wholesale highway robbery," worse even than the South African stores scandals. It roundly asserts that the whole big, costly scheme is to be pushed through simply for the pecuniary benefit of the Crown Agents' kempis at home. Singapore, it will be seen, is squealing very loudly at the prospect of being skinned—with no pickings for local lions. But it is difficult to feel any confidence in the result of a fight put up by the people of a Crown Colony. Everybody at home who can be made to care a rap, is already aware that the system of Crown Agents is an anachronism and an anachronism that must lead to make for "graft." The thing was blown upon long ago, but it still flourishes, and "graft" in these days does not become less powerful.—*Bangkok Times*.

## GREAT BRITAIN AND RUSSIA.

## NEGOTIATIONS FOR AN UNDERSTANDING.

The St. Petersburg correspondent of the *Times* says:—Sir Charles Hardinge, the British Ambassador, was received in special audience on Oct. 24 before his departure for two months' leave. I understand that the audience was connected with the projected Anglo-Russian understanding. Sir Charles Hardinge's presence in London is necessitated by the preparation of *pourparlers* in this connection, and I learn that Count Benckendorff is coming to St. Petersburg for a similar purpose.

It is no longer a secret that Germany has exerted every effort to defeat the Anglo-Russian entente, and has held out to the Russian Government the most alluring inducements. The precise nature of Germany's offer has not yet been disclosed. I am informed, however, that the proposal had reference to joint action in the Baltic and in the ultimate appointment of Austria-Hungary. The Germanish me found a ready advocate in Count Witte, but encountered emphatic opposition from France, which was only latent when that France is interested alike in checking plans of German aggression and in fostering good relations between Russia and Great Britain. The defeat of this latest attempt on the part of Germany to undermine the Franco-Russian Alliance, and to isolate England may possibly have some connexion with the recent attacks on Lord Lansdowne and also with the retirement of the German Ambassador in St. Petersburg.

## LATEST STEAMER MOVEMENTS.

The P.M. str. *Siberia* left Shanghai for this port on the 1st inst. at 11 a.m., and is expected to arrive here to-morrow afternoon between 2 and 5 p.m.  
The I.G.M. str. *Prinz Eitel Friedrich*, carrying the German mails with dates from Berlin of the 7th Nov., left Singapore on Thursday at 8 p.m., and may be expected here on Tuesday, the 6th inst. at noon.  
The I.G.M. Australian str. *Prinz Waldemar* left Sydney on the 25th ult., and may be expected here on Sunday, the 17th inst.  
The N.G.I. str. *Capri* left Singapore for this port this morning, and may be expected here on the 9th inst.  
The C.N. str. *Changsha*, from Australian ports, left Manila on the 30th ult. p.m., and is due here to-morrow at daylight.

## BABY COVERED WITH HUMOUR

Ears Looked as if They Would Drop Off—Body Entirely Covered with Sores—Three Doctors Could Not Cure—Child Grew Worse.

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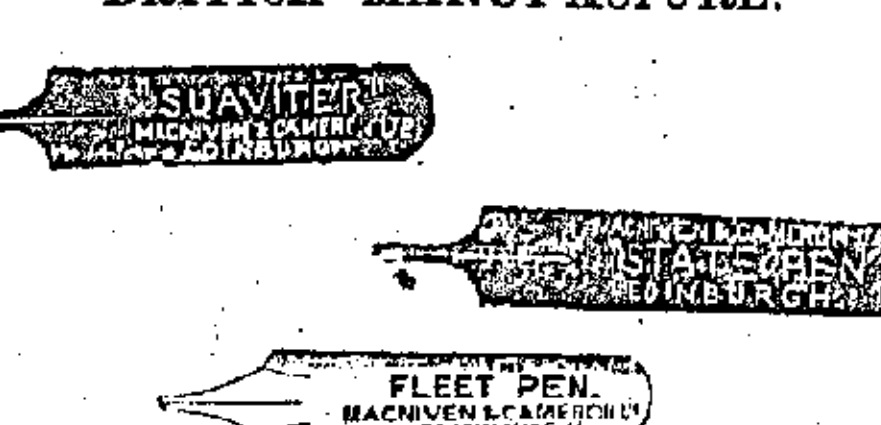
Mrs. George J. Steese, of 701 Columbia St., Akron, Ohio, tells in the following letter of another of those remarkable cures of Cuticura Remedies, after physicians, and all else had failed: "I feel it my duty to parents of other poor suffering babies to tell you what Cuticura has done for my little daughter. She broke out all over her body with a humor, and we used everything recommended, but without results. I called in three doctors, they all claimed they could help her, but she continued to grow worse. Her body was a mass of sores, her little face was being eaten away, and her ears looked as if they would drop off. Neighbors advised me to get Cuticura Soap and Ointment, and before I had used half of the cake of Cuticura Soap and the box of Cuticura Ointment, the sores had all healed, and my little one's face and body was as clear as a new-born babe's. I would not be without it again if it cost a fortune instead of the small sum it cost us to cure our baby, after spending much money on doctors and medicines without any benefit whatever."

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GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"HUGHES"	On 5th December.
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"IDOMENEUS"	On 12th December.
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"STENTOR"	On 19th December.
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"KANCHOW"	On 26th December.
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"TELEMACHUS"	On 29th December.
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"PYREHUS"	On 2nd January.
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"PAKLING"	On 2nd January.
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"SAINT BEDE"	On 2nd January.
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"PATROCLUS"	On 9th January.

## HOMEBWARDS.

FOR	STEAMERS	DATE
LONDON, AMSTERDAM and ANTWERP	"DEUCALION"	On 5th December.
AMSTERDAM, LONDON and ANTWERP	"HECTOR"	On 19th December.
GENOA, MARSEILLES and LIVERPOOL	"GLAUCUS"	On 20th December.
AMSTERDAM, LONDON and ANTWERP	"TYDEUS"	On 2nd January.
AMSTERDAM, LONDON and ANTWERP	"IDOMENEUS"	On 10th January.

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EASTWARD.

FOR	STEAMERS	DATE
VICTORIA, SEATTLE, TACOMA, & PACIFIC COAST PORTS, VIA NAGASAKI, KOBE and YOKO-	"TELEMACHUS"	On 1st January.

## WESTWARD.

FROM	STEAMERS	DATE
TACOMA, SEATTLE, VICTORIA, and PACIFIC COAST	"TYDEUS"	On 20th November.
	"JASON"	On 28th December.

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,  
AGENTS. (9-10)

Hongkong, 18th November, 1905.

CHINA NAVIGATION CO.  
LIMITED.

TO	STEAMERS	DATE
SHANGHAI	"ICHANG"	On 3rd December.
MANILA	"TEAN"	On 5th December.
Kobe and NAGASAKI	"CHIHLI"	On 5th December.
CEBU and ILOILO	"SUNGKIANG"	On 5th December.
SHANGHAI	"YONGHAI"	On 5th December.
Kobe	"CHANGSHA"	On 9th December.

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SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

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SETHONIA (HAYRE, BREMEN and HAMBURG)	On 22nd Dec. Freight.
Capt. Bremer (Calling at Singapore, Penang and Colombo)	
AMBRIA (HAYRE and HAMBURG)	On 10th Jan. Freight.
Capt. Wunsenberg (Calling at Singapore, Penang and Colombo)	
BRISGAVIA (HAYRE and HAMBURG)	On 24th Jan. Freight.
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TAMSU VIA SWATOW	"DAIGI MARU"	SUNDAY, 10th Dec., at 10 A.M.
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## PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG—SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

STEAMERS.	SAILING DATE.
PRINZ REGENT LUITPOLD	WEDNESDAY 8th December 1905
PRINZ HEINRICH	WEDNESDAY 20th December 1905
PRINZ EITEL FRIEDRICH	WEDNESDAY 3rd January 1906
ONEISENAU	WEDNESDAY 13th January 1906
BOON	WEDNESDAY 14th February 1906
PREUSSEN	WEDNESDAY 28th February 1906
ZIETEN	WEDNESDAY 14th March 1906
PRINZESS ALICE	WEDNESDAY 28th March 1906
PRINZ REGENT LUITPOLD	WEDNESDAY 11th April 1906
PRINZ EITEL FRIEDRICH	WEDNESDAY 25th April 1906
SACHSEN	WEDNESDAY 8th May 1906
PRINZ HEINRICH	WEDNESDAY 22nd May 1906
BOON	WEDNESDAY 5th June 1906
PREUSSEN	WEDNESDAY 19th June 1906
ZIETEN	WEDNESDAY 3rd July 1906
OLDENBURG	WEDNESDAY 17th July 1906
BAYERN	WEDNESDAY 31st August 1906
PRINZ REGENT LUITPOLD	WEDNESDAY 14th August 1906
PRINZ EITEL FRIEDRICH	WEDNESDAY 28th August 1906

ON WEDNESDAY, the 6th day of DECEMBER, 1905, at Noon, the Steamship  
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## NOTICES TO CONSIGNEES

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM CALCUTTA, PENANG AND  
SINGAPORE.

THE Steamship

"LIGHTNING"

having arrived, Consignees of Cargo are hereby  
informed that Cargo are being landed and  
stored at their risk and expense into the  
hazardous and/or extra hazardous Godowns  
of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and  
Godown Co., Limited, whence delivery may  
be obtained.No Claims will be admitted after the Goods  
have left the Godowns, and all Claims must be  
sent in to the Office of the undersigned before  
Noon on the 5th December or they will not be  
recognized.No Fire Insurance has been effected, and any  
Goods remaining in the Godowns after the  
6th December will be subject to rent.Bills of Lading will be countersigned by  
DAVID SASSOON & CO., LD.,  
Agents.

Hongkong, 30th November, 1905. (295)

OCEAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY,  
LIMITED,AND  
CHINA MUTUAL STEAM NAVA-  
TION COMPANY, LIMITED.

CONSIGNEES per Company's Steamer

"OANFA"

are hereby notified that the Cargo is being  
discharged into Craft, and/or landed at the  
Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon  
Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., where in both  
cases it will lie at consignees' risk. The Cargo  
will be ready for delivery from Craft or Godown  
on and after the 1st December.Optional Cargo will be landed, unless notice  
has been given prior to steamer's arrival.All broken, chafed, and damaged Goods are  
to be left in the Godowns, where they will be  
examined at 11 A.M. on the 5th December.No Claims will be admitted after the Goods  
have left the steamer's Godown, and all Goods  
remaining undelivered after the 5th December  
will be subject to rent.All Claims against the Steamer must be  
presented to the Undersigned on or before the  
8th December, or they will not be recognised.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,  
Agents.

Hongkong, 30th November, 1905. (2-10)

S.S. "ARMAND BEHIC."

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES  
MARITIMES.

NOTICE.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo from London &c. s.s.  
Medoc, from Bordeaux &c. s.s.  
Ville de Dunkerque and Fred Merle,  
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informed that their Goods, with the  
exception of Opium, Treasure and Valuables,  
are being landed and stored at their risks into  
the hazardous and/or extra hazardous Godowns  
of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown  
Co., Ltd., at Kowloon, whence delivery may be  
obtained immediately after landing.Optional Cargo will be forwarded on unless  
intimation is received from the Consignees  
before NOON TO-DAY, requesting it to be  
landed here.Bills of Lading will be countersigned by the  
Undersigned. Goods remaining undelivered after  
Thursday, the 7th December, at Noon, will be  
subject to rent and landing charges.All claims must be sent in to me on or before  
7th December, or they will not be recognised.The damaged packages will be examined on  
Thursday, the 7th December, at 3 P.M.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

G. DE CHAMPEAUX,  
Agent.

Hongkong, 30th November, 1905. (2)

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WEEKLY PRESS, January to June  
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## CHILDREN OF FAR CATHAY.

BY  
CHARLES J. H. HALCOMBE,  
MEMBER OF CHINA REPORT PARTY.  
Author of "The Mystic Flower Land,"  
"Travels in the Transvaal," &c., &c.

(Continued from last Saturday)

Immediately after this interview with Dr. Sen, Montrose returned home and acquainted Lih-hwa of his willingness that she should accompany him in his journey. She was delighted at the prospect of going with him to find her long-lost brother, and arrangements were forthwith made for the comfort of Ah-choi during their absence, a good meal being engaged to attend upon her.

At this period the chief events connected with the lives of the few surviving characters of this story crowded so thick and fast upon one another, that it is necessary to be somewhat brief in relating some of them. So let us suffice for me to say that on May 14, 19—, and just three days after their strange meeting, Montrose and Lih-hwa were married by special licence at Hongkong Cathedral, and that next morning they left for Canton, preparatory to starting upon their memorable journey to the distant Nanling mountains.

CHAPTER XXII.—THE FALL OF QUEILING.  
On the morning of the 23rd of May, exactly eight days after leaving Canton, Montrose and his wife came in contact with the advanced outposts of Cheng's army a few miles to the southward of the town of Quai-ling.

On the second day of their journey they had passed close to the Imperialist forces; and during the rest of the way they had frequently overtaken small bands of armed men going in the same direction as themselves. But, when Montrose viewed the passward Chen-sen, it seemed to have a magical effect, for every man about his weapon and, with a grim smile, shout "Hui-loa, ngai lae!" (Yes we are coming) as he doggedly trudged on to the north-west.

At nine o'clock on the morning in question, on coming to the base of a low hill which stretched several miles to the left and right of them, they encountered a number of soldiers lying in a trench. An officer, wearing a richly embroidered jacket and a red turban, at once came forward and demanded their business.

Montrose informed him that he was the bearer of an urgent message to Hung Fong Cheng; whereupon the lieutenant, for such he proved to be, called two soldiers and ordered them to escort the travellers to headquarters.

The men were fine specimens of humanity, each being six feet high, and were polite and agreeable. They wore a very handsome uniform consisting of a short red-coloured tunic, with trousers of the same colour and material, and high black boots, their head-gear being a turban, with a silken tassel at the side, beneath which their hair was gracefully coiled.

Our friends were conducted up the side of the hill, and, on arriving at the top they looked down into a fertile valley where a grand and impressive sight met their gaze.

For about a mile on either hand stretched a vast camp—a veritable city of tents; and these were arranged in even lines between which were broad spaces, every tent being of a bright orange colour which shone like a gem in the sun. In the centre of the camp was a large marquee striped with red and surrounded by a silken standard of yellow and red emblazoned with a "double dragon"; and at the foot of the hill a large force of infantry and cavalry was performing various evolutions, while the blare of trumpets and the clank of arms gave animation to that warlike scene.

"Your brother is indeed no ordinary man!" exclaimed Montrose, who, while leading his wife's horse, his martial ardour rising within him as with a thrill of wonder and admiration his eye fell upon this grand array.

"He has a true and brave heart," she replied gently, her face flushing with pride.

"I am glad," she added gratefully, "that you brought me with you, for I would not have missed this sight for anything."

As they advanced into the camp, they were able to see and appreciate the discipline and order which prevailed everywhere; and when they passed groups of soldiers, some of whom were reclining upon the ground, the latter would rise and stand silently and respectfully aside. It was a striking contrast to the slovenly and insolent tramping of the Imperialist troops by whom foreigners are at all times grossly insulted and often cruelly maltreated.

On arriving at headquarters, an officer came forward, and, respectfully taking Montrose's card, asked him if his companion to wait while he saw his chief.

He almost immediately reappeared and, with deep obeisance, held aside a large curtain, which covered the entrance of the tent and asked them to enter.

As they stepped forward, they saw before them a raised dais covered with crimson cloth and upon it, seated beneath a canopy and surrounded by richly-dressed chieftains, was Cheng, who now rose and, while his companions remained standing, came quickly forward with hands outstretched.

"This is indeed a greater pleasure to me than any victory!" he said, grasping both their hands at the same time and exhibiting much emotion. Montrose handed him the despatch from Dr. Sen, and in a few words explained how he had met Lih-hwa and that she was now his wife.

"This has been ordered by God and I bless you both!" said Cheng with much feeling gently and fondly raising his sister who, according to custom, had fallen upon her knees before the first-born male of her house.

Montrose gave a start of surprise and stepping forward impulsively grasped his hands.

"Cheng, you are a Christian!"

"I am a sincere striving to be worthy of that blessed name," Cheng replied with modesty. "That holy love you have and have been my comfort and consolation through years of sorrow and hardship."

"Then, thank God," exclaimed Montrose, "my mission has not been in vain."

Cheng now led the way into an inner chamber and gave them seats.

When they were alone, Lih-hwa took from her pocket a carefully-wrapped packet, and drew from it a small roll of paper which she handed to her brother.

"This is the mother's last letter to you," she said, adding simply and apologetically, "I have kept it for years, as I was unable to deliver it before."

Cheng bowed his head, and his hand trembled as he respectfully received the time-worn missive; and, while he eagerly and sorrowfully looked over it, Montrose regarded him with silent interest.

He had grown taller and his erect and graceful form was shown to great advantage in a long and gorgeous robe of yellow satin, which was covered with gold and silver embroidery, and drawn in round the waist by a chain-linked belt, from which was suspended a sash of beautiful workmanship. He was wearing the state dress of the Ming dynasty, and upon his head was a scarlet hood, surmounted by a band of beaten gold, ornamented with filigree work, and with jewels consisting of large pearls and rubies, all of which

had been left him by his deceased father, and had been placed in the casket which he had contrived to recover from its hiding-place in the grounds of his old home in Lion.

His face, though more handsome and expressive, was still youthful; yet it bore a look of stern and even gloomy determination, which was accentuated by his general aspect and bearing, which were commanding and somewhat haughty, while his manner was quiet, courteous, and self-reliant.

"Poor mother!" he at length said, in a low, thoughtful voice, folding the letter and placing it in his pocket.

"Then for a moment his eyes flashed, and a grim smile played upon his countenance."

"I have not laboured in vain," he added, speaking slowly and distinctly "for the day will soon come when the murderers of those dear ones, and all my clansmen, shall be brought to Justice!"

He now opened the despatch and read it carefully. Then, touching a small gong, he turned to Montrose.

"Just as you and my dear sister arrived," he said smilingly, "I was holding a council of war; and I am afraid that the news from Dr. Sen makes it necessary for me to once confer with my generals. So will you honour us with your presence?"

Montrose assented. Then Cheng bent down and, laying his hand affectionately upon Lih-hwa's shoulder, said: "My dearest, delighted though I am that you have been once more united, and although eager and impatient to have a long conversation with you and learn the story of your adventures, I shall be obliged to leave you for the present and also to you."

He then turned to Montrose and said: "My dear friend, I am sure you will find me a most attentive listener. However, as there happen to be some respectable women in camp I will send for them and see that you receive every attention."

The honest Ah Sam, who looked hale and happy, now entered and saluted those present with great respect and gratification. Cheng at once despatched him with an order for the high officers to assemble, while another man was despatched to find certain serving-women and to see that a banquet was spread.

Shortly afterwards a trumpet sounded loudly, and then, bowing to Lih-hwa, the two men passed out of the inner tent into the larger one; and, as they did so, those assembled there rose to their feet.

"I must present to you my old tutor and adviser, Mr. Wong A-choi, whom I believe you have met before," said Cheng, leading Montrose to a third person, seated near which stood a patriarchal-looking man who was dressed somewhat more soberly than the rest of the assembly.

The old gentleman came forward with outstretched hand.

"I feel very gratified to meet you once again, sir," he said, grasping Montrose by the hand; "for it is many years since we met, and now we are on the eve of great events."

"Events which—if I remember right—you seemed to anticipate when last I saw you," said Montrose, cordially returning the pressure of his hand.

Cheng now raised his hand to enjoin silence, and in a few solemn words he announced the arrival of his beloved sister, and introduced "an old and respected friend who had recently done him the honour of becoming his brother-in-law."

He then proceeded to read the message from Dr. Sen; and those present listened with silent attention.

His every look and gesture pronounced him to be a born leader of men; and the marked deference with which he was treated, greatly pleased and impressed Montrose, and as he stood beside him and looked around upon that company of stern and warlike chieftains who seemed to consider it an honour to serve beneath the standard of this youthful warrior—this princely outcast—he felt proud to claim kinship with him, and, if needs be, to wield a sword in his cause.

After reading the despatch, Cheng sat down for a few minutes and conferred with Montrose and Mr. Wong. Then turning to his officers he expressed his conviction that the best measure to pursue in this case was to endeavour by forced marches to reach and capture the city of Quai-ling before its garrison had been reinforced by the foreign and Imperialist troops.

"I deem this expedient for several reasons," he added. "In the first place, Quai-ling is a large city with stores of food, arms, and ammunition, besides several cannon and three Krupp guns; it is would form a good base for our subsequent operations against Lion. In the second place, in order to better avail ourselves of the flank which Dr. Sen proposes to deliver in our support, I venture to think that it would be advisable to encounter the Imperialists in the open field; and then we have a strong city to draw from or fall back upon, as the case may require."

The generals were unanimous in their opinion that this plan should be adopted; so Cheng gave orders for the camp to be struck at once, and for extra scouts to be sent ahead of the army.

"We will now retire, my dear Montrose; my dear Herbert, I should say," he said, rising and intimating that the council was over.

Then turning to Mr. Wong, he added, "And you must come and help me to celebrate the great occasion of my re-union with a long-lost brother and sister."

"I shall be only too happy to do so," said the old gentleman, whose eyes shone with animation, as he took the arm which Montrose proffered him, and, as they entered the inner enclosure, as they entered the inner enclosure.

"We two (inclining his head towards Cheng) have wandered far together and I love him as a son, and have watched over him from his childhood. Long ago I knew that he would one day be a great man; and his sufferings must have been ordained by Providence that he might be chastened and fitted for the work he seems destined to accomplish. His noble heart must now be quickened with joy, for he has not only found you and his beloved sister, but he is at last about to come face to face with that villainous tyrant who caused the downfall of his house and the death of his honourable parents. For Shun Ming, the former Tsoai of Lion, is now Prefect of Quai-ling and the surrounding districts; and being now very wealthy and influential, and, probably having some knowledge and much fear of the danger which threatens him, he has petitioned the Viceroy of Canton to send the present expedition to his assistance."

"And there is yet another who will have to reckon with our host," he added, "and that is How Seng Wai, the Magistrate. He is still in Lion."

"And how long," asked Montrose, "has Cheng openly opposed the present Government?"

"Nearly two years," replied Mr. Wong. "For some years he and I travelled from place to place, chiefly among the mountainous regions of the two Kwangs, preaching an anti-dynastic crusade; and, when the time was ripe for revolt, the hardy mountaineers rallied round our standard, and we attacked the city of Toucheu, away to the westward beyond the Nanling mountains, and captured it, together with vast stores and treasures, among the foremost being some thousands of fine cloth, which enabled us to make uniforms for our troops and other useful things, including tents."

"In most of our encounters with the cowardly Imperialists we have been singularly successful; and now, having an army of hardy, disciplined men, we mean to wrench Southern China from the Manchoo-Tartars, and establish an independent state. Mountaineers have been despatched to all parts of Kwangsi and Kwangtung, and from the most distant places men are now coming to fight with us for life and liberty."

Montrose continued for some time in conversation with Mr. Wong, while Cheng sat and talked with his sister; and then a servant announced that the meal was prepared.

Passing through a canvas-covered passage they entered another smaller but where an oval table covered with red cloth, was spread with good fare.

Lih-hwa's face was bright and animated, and she seemed to thoroughly enjoy herself. She was waited upon, by two Cantonese women who did their utmost to make her comfortable; while Cheng and Mr. Wong vied with each other in giving her and her husband a warm welcome. Tents were dank and little speeches made; but while this merry-making was in progress, there could be heard outside the clatter of hoofs, the rattle of gun-carriages and the tramp of many feet, and other sounds which showed that speedy preparations were being made for the onward march.

On rising from the table, Cheng held aside a canvas flap, and as they stepped out upon the soft grass an inspiring sight met their gaze.

The city of tents had disappeared, as if by magic, and in its place soldiers were leading and harnessing horses or forming in line. There was no undue haste or confusion, and each man seemed to know his duty and to perform it quietly and methodically.

Our friends stood together for some time watching the work that was being carried on. When the various dispositions had been made and the regiments marshalled, Cheng gave a searching glance around and then issued a command to a staff-officer who stood near. Immediately afterwards a trumpet sounded, and the call was answered from all parts of the field.

In a moment the earth seemed to tremble as line upon line and brigade after brigade of armed men swung past them at a quick march.

"Now we will start!" said Cheng, as Ah Sam appeared leading their horses, and a number of men who composed his staff and bodyguard came riding up.

They now mounted and proceeded on their way, Montrose riding beside Cheng, and Lih and Mr. Wong following close behind.

Montrose noticed that above the sea of heads which surrounded them only a few horsemen were to be seen, and he asked his companion what had become of all the cavalry.

"This is to be a forced march," replied Cheng, "and, until getting in touch with the enemy, cavalry and infantry fare alike, all the horses, with the exception of those belonging to the generals, scouts, and a small part of my bodyguard, being requisitioned for transport purposes. Each man carries a bag of rice, a bottle of water and his weapon, and the animals carry the rest. Being unencumbered with wagons, we are able to make double the amount of progress that an ordinary army would under similar conditions."

"You will also observe," he added, "that certain regiments and battalions are armed differently to others. The reason of this is that we have accumulated a very miscellaneous assortment of arms, so I thought that it would be advisable for the best marksmen to have the newest and most accurate weapons. For instance the men of one regiment or battalion carry Martini-Heurys, those of another Snayders, and so on; and in order to avoid dissension among them, all those who are armed alike go together."

After a time Cheng dropped behind to converse with his sister, so Mr. Wong joined Montrose who learned much from him respecting the modes of attack and retreat.

That evening they camped near a small stream, after traversing about thirty miles of flat country, and were joined by three hundred men from a neighbouring village, also by some men from the Meiling Mountains.

They were now only twenty-eight miles from Quai-ling, so a final council of war was held at 8 p.m., all the high officers being present, also Montrose, who was dressed in a plain khaki uniform with his revolver in his belt.

It was agreed that the western wall was to be bombarded with every available gun and then attacked by force. In the meantime a large body of mounted infantry was to work round to the north, keeping behind a range of foot-hills; and when the garrison was engaged in repulsing the attack from the west, they were to try and rush the northern part of the wall, which at that point was thickly overgrown with trees and bushes that would enable the attackers to climb with greater safety and expedition than would be possible if wholly dependent upon ladders.

Other details of the attack were arranged, and then Montrose—who had said little during the debate—rose to his feet and offered to lead the northern storming party. Whereupon Cheng stood up and in a few stirring and eloquent words expressed his sincere gratification; and, unbuckling from his side a magnificent sabre with a curiously wrought hilt of gold, he presented it to Montrose.

"Take this my sword," he said with warm enthusiasm, "and I know that with it you will clear a way to victory!"

The various generals now came forward and paid their respects to their "foreign brother," who was then formally installed as Commander of the Third division of mounted infantry, which was chiefly composed of men belonging to one of the most ancient and noble families in China—men whose forefathers had fought and bled for the beloved Ming in their valiant struggles against the Manchoo invaders. They were a splendid and useful body of soldiers, and were armed with heavy Chinese swords and Snayder rifles, the latter being slung over the shoulder, while their uniform consisted of a red turban, a tight-fitting blue jacket with a leather belt round the waist, and loose red trousers that were gathered in about the ankle and tucked into the ordinary Chinese riding-boots.

At an early hour next morning the march was resumed, and Montrose rose at the head of his division, and it must be confessed that in his khaki uniform and with his sabre and revolver at his side he looked every inch a soldier and very little of the missionary; while Lih-hwa and her attendants, who had been provided with sedan chairs, and also the wives of certain chiefs, occupied a place in the centre of the army where they were well guarded in case of any sudden attack.

Nothing of any importance happened that day, and at six o'clock in the evening the army occupied about four miles to the westward of Quai-ling. Every precaution was taken against a surprise, and, besides the usual outposts, the front, flanks and rear were guarded by rifle-pits and trenches.

At 8 p.m. one of Cheng's spies brought in the news that Shun Ming had strongly fortified the city and had gathered into it all the forces he could collect from the surrounding country; and that a Tartar general named Hop Fui had been entrusted with the defence.

Cheng smiled grimly and contentedly as he heard these tidings, but he did not impart them to his generals or summon them to another

council of war. For his mind was resolved and his plan of action definitely arranged, and he wished officers and men to sleep well and soundly that night; for on the morrow there would be much work and great doings.

Being a wary commander he refrained from making the attack by night, as he did not know the full strength of the garrison, though he was sure that the relief expedition was nowhere near, for his scouts had scoured the surrounding country for many miles.

At half-past four in the morning the reveille sounded. Horn and trumpet echoed the brazen call, and soon the camp was up and stirring. The various generals and company commanders paraded their men for inspection, and before ammunition was served out every weapon was examined to see that it was in good order. Each soldier carried his tent and kit on the mounted regiments now required their horses.

The Third division under Montrose, mustering 2,625 fighting men, was the first to leave camp, as it was to form the northern storming party, and had to make a somewhat wide detour to the northward.

At quarter to six the main army or *Kuan*, which was composed of about 41,000 officers and men, marched out in separate divisions formed in columns of six abreast, the flanks being protected by cavalry and artillery, and the front by a widely-extended screen of skirmishers and a couple of quick-firing guns.

Each division was divided into five brigades—the front, rear, right, left and centre—and a brigade was divided into five regiments, each of which had its own particular banner, the latter varying in size according to the prowess and reputation of the serving general.

Cheng's bodyguard consisted of two thousand stalwart Maentse men, all of whom were aboriginal mountaineers and natives of Kwangsi, who were companions for their bravery and hardihood, and for their long and beautiful hair.

(To be continued.)

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(Signed) B. DESMOND.

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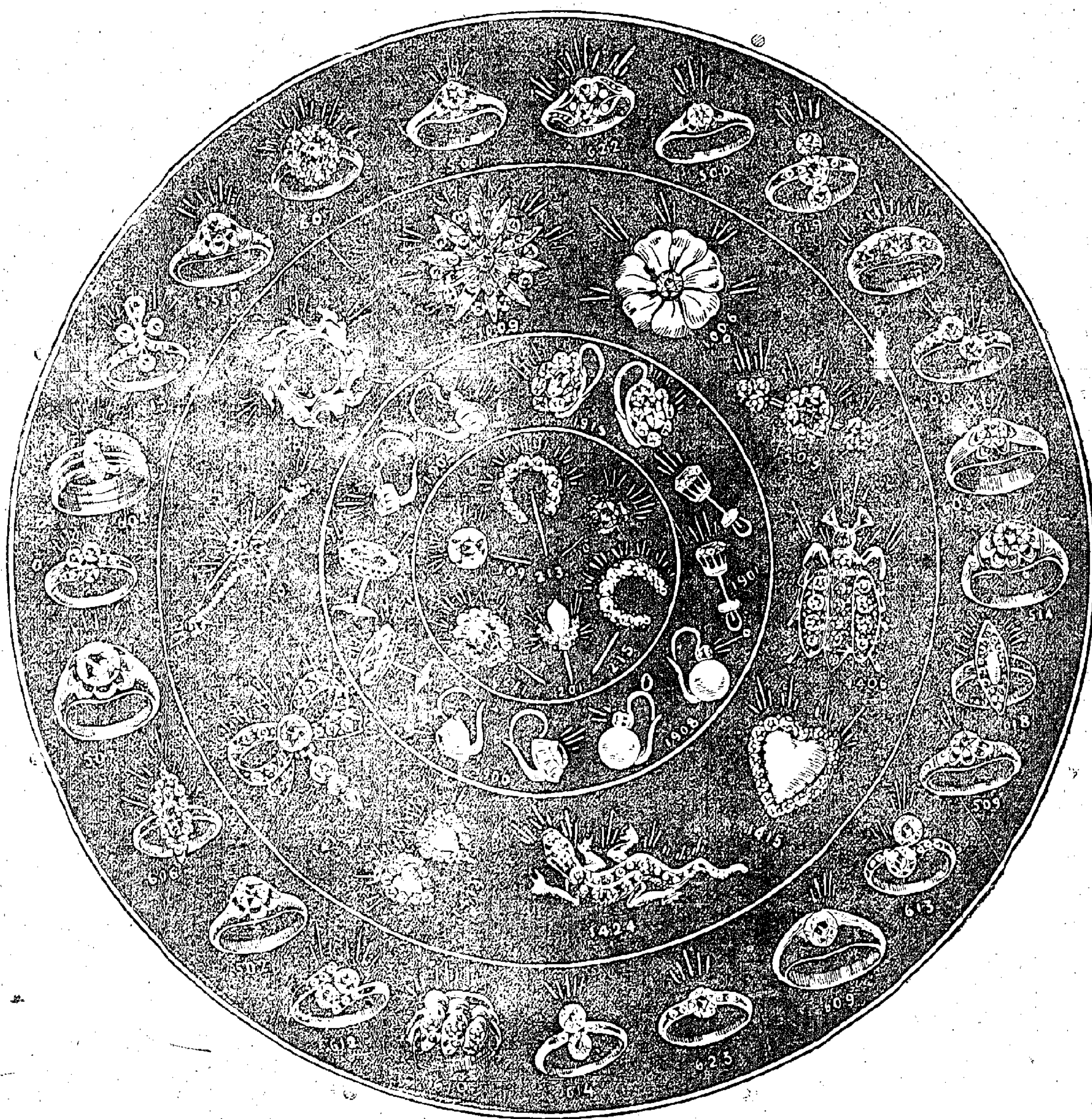
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